

# June

Magic Lantern Society



*Check-Out the Tam Slide Company Lecture Slide Series*

Be Sure to LOOK for those  
Buttons and roll-over effects

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*From Mike Koch Collection Click slide image for more!*



## Share Your Information on Slide Producer P.G. Segar

**From George Davis**

george.davis.610@btinternet.com

Hi,  
I wonder if you have any record of a magic lantern artists named P. G. Segar circa 1920's (or W.W.I.)  
The slides appear to have been produced for the army training corps.  
Thank you,  
Yours sincerely,  
George.

**From David Evans**

Hi George

He doesn't spring to mind. I suggest we add your request to our next E-Publication, which goes to all our members, in the hope that someone will have come across him. Thank you for your enquiry, and let us hope for a positive outcome.

Regards

David Evans  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Magic Lantern Society of US & Canada



## Slide Sets

**From Randi Hudson**

xrlhudson@outlook.com

Hello,

I work for an antique store in Arizona and we recently received 2 Magic Lantern Glass Slideshows. The first is "Wild Arrow" words by Max Barath and music by L.R. Decker. Slides by Genre Transparency Co. Chicago. This set is made up of 16 color slides including title & chorus slides. The rest are numbered 1 through 14, and doesn't appear to be missing any.

The next is "Valley Flower" intermezzo two step by Kerry Mills. Slides by Levi's Perfection Slides. This set is made up of 16 color slides including the title & chorus slides. The title slide in this set is cracked. The rest of the slides are numbered, however, they've since been renumbered on masking tape placed over the slide number. I do not know if this is missing any numbers due to the masking tape.

Our plan is to eBay these slides, however, we don't know a ton about them. While I was researching, I came across your organization so I thought I would see if this is something you might be interested in purchasing, or if you could offer any insight as to their value.

I look forward to hearing back from you,  
Randi Hudson

## THE AMICA CONVENTION

**From Sean Sharp**

seansharp01@gmail.com

I wanted to let you know that the Automatic Musical Instrument Collectors' Association (AMICA) will be having its annual convention on August 8-13, 2017, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. The contact person for the Convention is Alan Turner, Convention Chair, at duo-art@mts.net or call 1-204-489-3075. Here is the webpage for information about the Convention and the registration form:

<http://www.amica.org/Live/Conventions/Past-Convention-Websites/2017-Winnipeg-Manitoba/index.htm>

I will be at the Convention, presenting a program of illustrated songs on August 11.

### Friday, August 11

From 9:00 am until noon we will have our AMICA workshops followed by AMICA's annual Mart at the host hotel.

After dinner, we will be entertained by Frederick Hodges on the piano accompanying a silent film short comedy feature and Sean Sharp's vocal styling for a selection of Illustrated Song Slides in the Art Gallery Theatre.



## Displaying and/or Projecting Magic Lantern Slides

**From John Olsen**

drvot2@gmail.com

Dear MLS,

I own three magic lantern slides that I would like to show as part of a larger display of political items related to the League of Women Voters. When I put them in riker mounts, it is hard to see the wording on the slides.

I have tried to project it with a flash light and it does not work that well.

What do you suggest?

Thanks,  
John Olsen  
drvot2@gmail.com  
515-218-0239

P.S. I am a long time member of the American Political Items Collectors. If any of your members have political related slides, I might be interested in buying them.

**From David Evans**

Dear John

My apologies for not replying sooner, due to being out of the country.

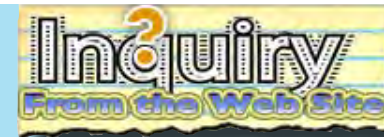
I assume these are regular glass lantern slides of 3 1/4" square or 3 1/4" x 4"? It depends on whether you want to display them so that they are visible or actually project them. If the former then a light box would probably work. If the latter, in the absence of a suitable magic lantern, you could perhaps use an overhead projector with a mask on its table with a hole in it for the slide.

Bear in mind that the slides will bleach out if subjected to long-term exposure to light. Another option might be to scan them and use digital copies of them on a computer screen or digital projector.

I hope this helps!

Regards

David Evans  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Magic Lantern Society of US & Canada



## My Projector

**From Nancy McKnight**

nmcknight@neo.rr.com

I have a magic lantern that came to me indirectly through my great, great, great uncle who surveyed the west. It includes many of the 2-inch glass slides of his adventures. I think it includes all the parts of the lantern except a light source. We have tried numerous lights and can't seem to project anything. Can you be of any assistance? I could send pictures of exactly what I have. Perhaps something is missing. What type of light source should I use? Hopefully you will be able to help me with my adventure!  
Nancy McKnight

**From David Evans**

Dear Nancy

Yes, please send a few pictures of the lantern, inside and outside. You can use several different types of light source depending on the lantern. You mention 2-inch slides. That is quite small, so I am guessing this is perhaps a toy lantern? The usual 'professional' slide size was 3.25" x 4" in USA and 3.25" square in UK and much of Europe. I'll await your pictures before adding any suggestions.

Thank you for contacting us.

David Evans  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Magic Lantern Society of US & Canada

## Northeast MLS Group Shines

### From Terry Borton

The Northeast MLS Group held another of its biannual meetings in East Haddam, CT, and an excellent and diverse meeting it was.

Kent Wells gave a preview of an upcoming article in the Gazette about scientific lantern shows. Kent has tracked down almost a hundred such performers.

Dave McClean had made a limelight spotlight, and explained the inner workings of this little-understood lantern illumination.

Dick Moore gave show featuring American Medical Association slides exposing the tricks of patent medicine hucksters.

Terry Borton introduced his forthcoming virtual museum, The Museum of American Magic-Lantern Shows, and presented a couple of short show segments, including an African American song.



**Sam Dole explains the collodion photographic process**  
*Photographer, Jody Dole*

Terry's grandson, Seth Kolker, gave a short show, improvising the dialogue for a Beale set that he had never seen before projecting it. Jeff Gardner explained how Prof. Marshall developed his extraordinary "sand shows" in which he projected thin slices of brilliantly colored minerals.

Jody Dole talked about his years studying collodion photography, and his son Sam, a teacher at the Center for Alternative Photography in New York City, talked about the details of the collodion photographic process. (The collodion "wet plate" process was used for almost all photographic lantern slides before the 1870s, and after that for the best slides, because it gave the best detail.)

Kristina Jorgensen gave a talk about the memories evoked by a slide of her ancestral homeland, given her years ago by Terry. And Dave Desmond amazed one and all with a "cooler," a magic trick of a disappearing handkerchief which he explained—or did he?





## Projecting Glass Slides

**From Paul Elliott**

pauljelliott72@gmail.com

Hi,

I wonder if you could help me. I am trying to find a way to project glass magic lantern slides. Do you know if I have to use a 19th century or early 20th magic lantern or is there some other way? The traditional magic lanterns are amazing but I am struggling to afford one and I very want to be able to project slides.

Can I adapt a 1950s\1960s 35mm slide projector? Is there a more modern (i.e. post war) projector that will do it? I have seen the Ensign Optiscope but again they are very expensive.

I have tried to find information on how I might go about this but have had no luck. Any help would be appreciated.

Yours  
Paul Elliott

**From David Evans**

Hi Paul

My apologies for not responding sooner due to being out of the country.

This is a problem which arises quite frequently. I assume you have the regular size slides - 3 1/4" square or 3 1/4" x 4"? Slides were made in various smaller sizes for toy lanterns, and for these you may be able to modify a 35mm slide projector. For the full size slides you could use an overhead projector with a card mount on its table with a suitable size hole cut for the slide. Be careful about heat though, as these projectors can make the slide very hot.

There are usually magic lanterns on eBay for around \$40 or so up, which might also be a possibility.

I hope this helps.

Regards

David Evans  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Magic Lantern Society of US & Canada

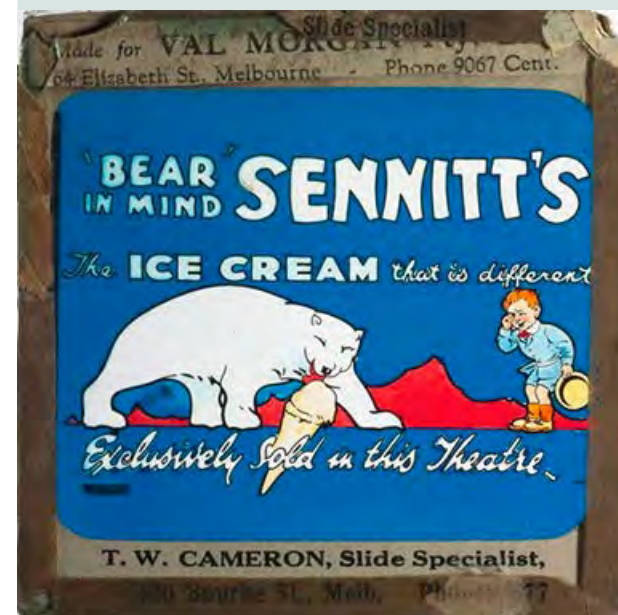
## Museum Victoria Collections



<https://collections.museumvictoria.com.au/search?collection=Eric+Douglas+Antarctic+Collection>

### Eric Douglas Antarctic Collection

*Just one of the many slide images*



**From Jamie Day**  
jday@transy.edu



## To American Magic Lantern Theater Web Site

Hello.

I enjoyed your website! I am researching a very early oxyhydrogen projecting microscope that survives at my college. I have heard that explosions occurred that destroyed auditoriums and such, but have not found much documentation regarding these. So far I have only found descriptions of two explosions, both of which occurred while preparing the gasses rather than while using a projector. Can you offer any direction or suggestions to find documented examples of explosions that occurred while a projector was in operation?

Thank you,  
Jamie Day  
Transylvania University  
Lexington, KY

## Explosions?

Thanks for the prompt reply! This is very useful. If you haven't posted already, let the society know I'm especially interested in early examples (second quarter of the 19th century). I found a couple of instrument makers (1840s or 50s) who claimed their instruments were safer because the gases were now housed separately, which implies that the earliest examples had a mixture of H<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> gasses in the same bag! Crazy!

Jamie.

## From Terry Borton

Hi Jamie,

This is a really unusual question.

The Boyertown Fire, 1908 is the most famous example. 200 were killed. It's not quite clear if the lantern started the fire, or the stage lights, or whether there was an explosion. See [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rhoads\\_Opera\\_House\\_fire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rhoads_Opera_House_fire)

There's another well-known example, with a grizzly description about a splinter being driven through the projectionists nose, but I can't lay my hands on it.

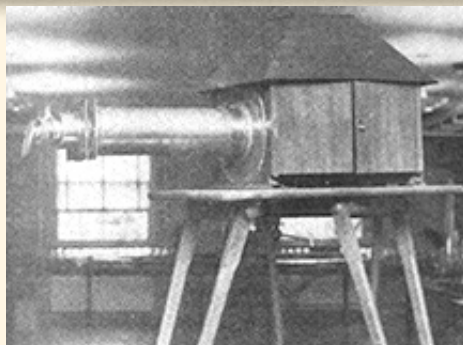
My own sense is that the danger of explosions was real, but those operating these lanterns were well aware of it, and took care not to blow themselves up, so explosions didn't happen too often. I'd make the analogy of working with bottled gas today.

I'll send your request on to our Newsletter. Maybe someone else in the Magic Lantern Society will know more.

Best,  
Terry Borton, Director  
The American Magic-Lantern Theater

BTW, Here are the 1950s catalog entries:  
**MICROSCOPE**  
(Lime-light)

This is the most complete of the three cal-oxyhydrogen microscopes which were purchased by the early University. We still have a large collection of objects made to be viewed with the aid of this particular apparatus. The microscope illustrated was made by W. & S. Jones of London. The other two were made by E.M. Clarke, also of London, and by McAllister of Philadelphia. Perhaps an interesting feature of this instrument is



the housing on top of the tripod in which was generated the limelight. The tripod support stands about five feet tall and the housing measures 15 x 12 inches. The complete instrument with its objects for study were valued by Dr. Fall at \$910.00.

### MICROSCOPE (Cal-oxyhydrogen "lime-light")

An early sketch showing the way in which the lime-light projector was made ready for use. One of the bellows was filled with oxygen, the other with hydrogen. The pressure exerted by the weights was sufficient to force these gases from the



nozzles within the hood. Knight's Dictionary (1877) describes the Oxyhydrogen Lamp as an improvement over the Oxycalcium light in these words, "one in which streams of oxygen and hydrogen in regulated quantities are commingled, the resulting flame being directed on a ball of quicklime and forming an extremely bright light; now used very largely by lecturers on science to illustrate phenomena, and by exhibitors to project pictures upon a screen."





## Lantern Slide Storage Box

**From: Ed Herny**  
edphemra@pacbell.net

I have a collection of antique lantern slides (3 1/4 x 4) that I wish to properly protect. Can you direct me to anyone who might have an original wooden Lantern Slide storage box for sale? Thanks!

**From David Evans**

Dear Ed

Thank you for your enquiry. Almost certainly one of our members will have such a thing. We can add your request to our monthly E-Publication and with luck someone will be able to help you.

David Evans  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Magic Lantern Society of US & Canada

## Help Creating a Magic Lantern Show

**From Meredith Patterson**  
meredith.patterson@simcoe.ca

Good afternoon,

My name is Meredith and I work at the Simcoe County Museum. . We at the Simcoe County Museum would like to create our own magic lantern show. We were hoping to purchase a magic lantern (two lenses), and slides. We would appreciate any help or guidance. Thank you for your time. Have a great day!  
Meredith

Thank you for your reply. I would love to have a request in for your publication. I am interested in either an American or British biunial magic lantern. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you!

Meredith Patterson  
Events Programmer  
Simcoe County Museum  
1151 Highway 26 Minesing, Ontario  
L9X 0Z7

**From David Evans**

Dear Meredith

There are many thousands of slides on eBay at any one time, so you probably should consider defining your requirement criteria before searching too much. Regarding the lantern, what do you mean by "two lenses"? You may mean a biunial of some sort - either horizontal or vertical. Having decided that, you need to decide on American style (typically metal framework with a leather bellows or similar, or a British mahogany vertical type with two separate units. The latter would be much more expensive. If you can give me an idea of your needs we could add your request to our next monthly E-Publication and maybe one of our members in the Ontario area could possibly help you.

Regards  
David Evans

She is wanting slides, especially of Christmas themes, such as the Dickens 'A Christmas Carol' set If there is anyone in the Ontario area who could help her she'd be grateful.

# PANORAMA

## Thinking The Panorama: Call For Papers, 2017

The 26th Conference of the IPC explores the criteria that contributed to the panorama's original definition in an effort to understand how it has affected contemporary media art forms and visual culture ever since.

How did historical immersive image spaces feed the need for an "all-encompassing" view and how does the painted panorama foreshadow its digital counterparts?

The Call For Papers for the 26th annual conference is now available on our website. Interested persons in all related & unrelated fields may submit a proposal (no longer than 250 words) for review to [secretary@panoramacouncil.org](mailto:secretary@panoramacouncil.org) no later than June 30th, 2017.

Decisions will be communicated by mid-July. Please note, presentation files will be due via dropbox on September 15th. At that time, you will also receive an invitation and guidelines to publishing your presentation in the first edition of the IPC's electronic conference proceeding's journal.

*Our mailing address is:  
International Panorama Council  
1122 West 24th Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90007*

Selected presentations from the conference will also be invited for inclusion in a special online publication by the Queens Museum (Re)Thinking the Panorama: A Contemporary User's Manual—an ongoing, multi-disciplinary compilation of artistic and literary works that aim to understand the social, political, and cultural implications of the all-encompassing view.

Stay tuned for further information on our upcoming conference, including a preliminary program, hotels, and rates.



26th IPC Conference  
Queens Museum  
Queens, New York, USA  
Sept. 29th - Oct. 1st, 2017  
Post-Conference Tour in  
New York City: Oct. 2nd, 2017

## Gazette Contributions Needed!



If you are doing some magic lantern research, please consider submitting an article. If you have interesting stories to tell about finding magic lanterns in antique shops, consider writing them up. Long or short articles that enhance our understanding of magic lanterns are welcome. Profusely illustrated pieces are especially desirable.

Kentwood D. Wells

Editor, The Magic Lantern Gazette

[kentwood.wells@uconn.edu](mailto:kentwood.wells@uconn.edu)



# Eastern Europe 19th - early 20th Centuries Illustrated Catalog of Slides for Magic Lanterns



This is the first edition in Eastern Europe in English for 120 years.

Number of Pages - 206.

Format: A4.

Languages - Russian, English

The first volume is based on the materials of the Catalogue of "light paintings" of A. F. Antsyferova's Moscow studio, edited in 1896.

This is the first time these catalogues are translated into English and illustrated by a variety of high-quality images of slides of that time. We also tried to describe in details each published image, find the source material of compositions of slides and specify their technical data and actual storage location.

The cost of the book without postage is \$ 75.

Payment by MoneyGram is required, as PayPal does not work in Ukraine apparently.

People should contact Sergey about prospective purchase shipping cost.



## Data DVD of Material

Following the release of the first volume of the illustrated slide catalog for the magical lanterns of Eastern Europe, the Creative Laboratory of Archeology of Cinema "Letopis" present to your attention: The Album "Eastern Europe of the 19th - the beginning of the 20th century.

Slides for Magic Lanterns "

Release 1 Restored images of slides with high-quality resolution. 200 rare slides produced by workshops of the Russian Empire:

- A.F. Antsyferova
- E.S. Trindin and his sons
- S.A. Baranov
- L.N. Popova

- Z.I. Shubskaya-Korsakova
- M.L. Sokolov
- P.I. Makhin and the company
- A.O. Karelin and others.

All titles are translated into English! The cost of the drive, including shipping to anywhere in the world: 25 US dollars or 22 euros.

The number of disks is limited to 100 copies.

Hurry!

We will answer any of your questions and provide any additional information!

With deep respect, Sergey.  
cortese@i.ua

Contact:  
Sergey at:  
**cortese@i.ua**

## Brenograph Booklet Available

<http://fwembassytheatre.org/about-us/historic-brenograph/>

**From**  
**Thomas J. Mathiesen**  
tjmathiesen@bluemarble.net

In the late 1920s, every deluxe movie palace had as part of its requisite equipment at least one "Master Brenograph F-7," a massive double magic lantern advertised by its manufacturer as projecting "Everything but the Motion Picture." From the projection booth, these complex machines could project airplanes flying through moving clouds, running water, fire, song lyrics dissolving from one verse to the next for sing-alongs, changing colors of patterned light, strobe effects, spot lights, and hundreds of special effects manufactured by the Maurice Workstel Company and a few others.

Enjoy a new 60-page booklet on the history of the F-7 Master Brenograph and the Brenkert Light Projection Company, which is available free of charge as a PDF for online reading or downloading from



a link on the "Historic Brenograph" page of the Embassy Theatre's (Fort Wayne, IN) web site: <http://fwembassytheatre.org/about-us/historic-brenograph/>. Print copies will be available from another link, with all proceeds going to the Embassy Theatre Foundation. In addition, your members might also find of interest the links on that same page to two catalogues of the theatre's extensive collection of Brenograph and lantern slides.

### From David Evans

Dear Mr Mathiesen

We can certainly add your message and links to our monthly E-Publication, which goes to all our members. I for one will be pleased to download a copy.  
Regards

David Evans  
Secretary-Treasurer,  
Magic Lantern Society of US &  
Canada

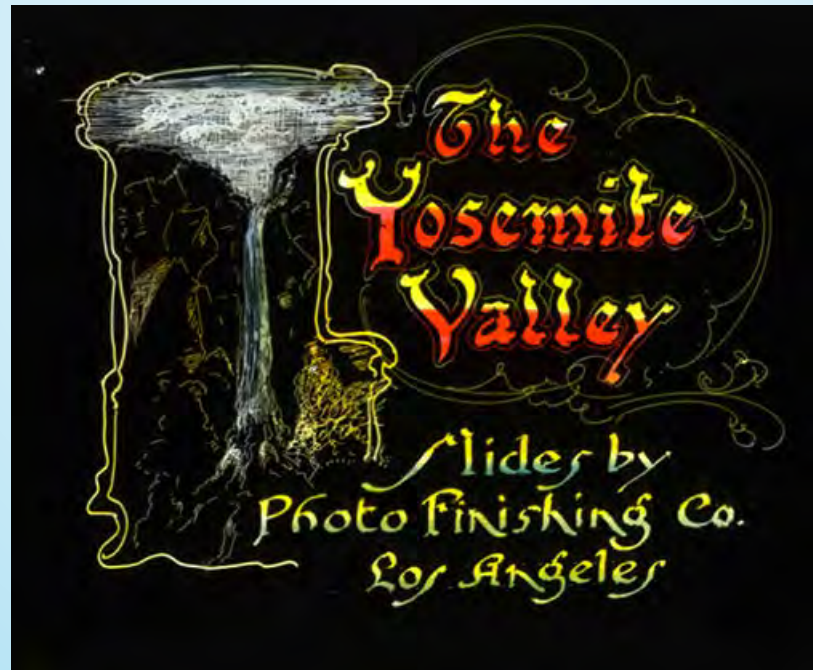


## Yosemite Lantern Slides, circa 1900



<http://www.californiapioneers.org/news/yosemite-lantern-slides/>

*Check out the slide show at the Society of California Pioneers*





### *A Big Thank You to the following:*

Terry Borton      Nancy McKnight  
George Davis      John Olsen  
Jamie Day      Meredith Patterson  
Paul Elliott      Sean Sharp  
David Evans  
Ed Herny  
Randi Hudson  
Thomas J. Mathiesen  
*for contributing to this month's issue.*

### **Now it's your turn to share!**

Do you have a favorite site or a collection of images you would like to share with the rest of the society?

If your answer is yes! Send site information or your images to Larry and they will be shared in the next E-pub newsletter.

**E-mail Larry**

## **Welcome New Members**

### **Arthur Meek**

58 Darlington Road, Miramar  
Wellington 6022  
New Zealand.

Playwright.

Ph: +1 917 755 4467

Interests: slides of most types, currently restoring a single lens lantern. Literature about Showman presentations. Plans to give shows, will buy.

## **Magic Lantern Slides from Llanfyllin circa 1900**

[http://llanfyllin.org/image-galleries/magic-lantern-slides/?doing\\_wp\\_cron=1496288696.9002449512481689453125](http://llanfyllin.org/image-galleries/magic-lantern-slides/?doing_wp_cron=1496288696.9002449512481689453125)



*hand-coloured magic lantern slides and you can see all 70-odd of them in more detail in their own gallery*



It was a fascinating insight into the local area around 1900s through the eyes of a newly-discovered local amateur photographer John Ellis Jones, or 'Non' Jones of Globe House. Thanks go to Richard and to Pauline Page-Jones for the work on the slideshow.